

Revised: 04.19.04

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS**App'l. No. 08/988,292**

Claims 1-5. (Canceled)

Claim 6. (Currently amended) ~~The device of Claim 1~~ A device for introducing or withdrawing a biologically active agent through a body surface, comprising:

a member having a body-surface-proximal side and a body-surface-distal side;

said member further having a first surface on said body-surface-proximal side of said member, a second surface on said body-surface-distal side of said member and a plurality of protrusions capable of piercing said body surface, said protrusions extending from the first surface; and

a connecting medium disposed on at least a portion of said first surface of said member, said connecting medium being capable of storing said biologically active agent therein or passing said biologically active agent therethrough when said plurality of protrusions have pierced the body surface and said connecting medium is placed in contact with said body surface, wherein the thickness of said connecting medium is in the range of about 10 micrometers to about 100 micrometers thick.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The device of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 6, wherein the thickness of said connecting medium is about 50 micrometers thick.

Claims 8-11. (Canceled)

Claim 12. (Currently amended) The device of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 6, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said plurality of protrusions comprise a plurality of blades.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 12, wherein at least one of ~~[[the]]~~ said plurality of blades ~~comprises~~ includes means for anchoring ~~[[the]]~~ said device to the body surface.

Claims 14-15. (Canceled)

Claim 16. (Currently amended) The device of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 6, wherein said device further ~~comprising~~ includes a sampling device connected to ~~[[the]]~~ said second surface of ~~[[the]]~~ said member, ~~[[the]]~~ said sampling device being selected from the group consisting of a reverse electrotransport device, a passive device, and an osmotic device.

Claim 17. (Currently amended) The device of Claim 16, wherein [[the]] said sampling device is capable of sampling agents selected from the group consisting of body electrolytes, illicit drugs and glucose.

Claims 18-22. (Canceled)

Claim 23. (Currently amended) A method for introducing an agent through a body surface, comprising the steps of:

providing a member having a body surface proximal side, a body surface distal side, a first surface on the said body surface proximal side of [[the]] said member and a second surface on said distal side of [[the]] said member [[;]], said member ~~having~~ including a plurality of protrusions extending from [[the]] said first surface and extending towards [[the]] said body surface and a connecting medium disposed on at least a portion of [[the]] said first surface;

introducing the agent in [[the]] said connecting medium;

piercing the body surface with [[the]] said plurality of protrusions extending from the first surface of [[the]] said member;

contacting the body surface with [[the]] said connecting medium; and

passing the agent through the body surface.

Claim 24. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 23, wherein [[the]] said passing step comprises~~[[;]]~~ administering the agent by a method selected from the group consisting of electrotransport, passive delivery, osmosis, and pressure.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, wherein [[the]] said withdrawing step comprises~~[[;]]~~ withdrawing the agent by a method selected from the group consisting of reverse electrotransport, passive sampling, and osmosis.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) A method for withdrawing an agent through a body surface, comprising the steps of:

piercing the body surface with a plurality of protrusions extending from a body surface proximal side of a member having a connecting medium capable of passing the agent therethrough, [[the]] said connecting medium being disposed on at least a portion of [[the]] said body surface proximal side;

contacting the body surface with [[the]] said connecting medium; and

withdrawing the agent through the body surface.

Claim 27. (Currently amended) A device for introducing or withdrawing an agent through a body surface, comprising:

a member having a body surface proximal side, a body surface distal side and a plurality of protrusions extending from said body surface proximal side;

a connecting medium capable of storing the agent therein or passing the agent therethrough on at least a portion of ~~[[the]]~~ said body surface proximal side of ~~[[the]]~~ said member; and

a sampling device connected to ~~[[the]]~~ said body surface distal side, ~~[[the]]~~ said sampling device being selected from the group consisting of a reverse osmosis device, an electrotransport device, a passive device and an osmotic device.

Claims 28-29. (Canceled)

Claim 30. (Currently amended) A device for introducing or withdrawing an agent through a body surface, comprising:

a member having a body surface proximal side, a body surface distal side and a plurality of protrusions extending from said body surface proximal side~~[[;]]~~, said member further ~~having~~ including at least one hole that extends through ~~[[the]]~~ said member~~[[,]]~~;

a connecting medium capable of storing the agent therein or passing the agent therethrough on at least a portion of ~~[[the]]~~ said body surface proximal side of the member; and

a sampling device connected to ~~[[the]]~~ said body surface distal side, the sampling device being selected from the group consisting of a reverse osmosis device, an electrotransport device, a passive device and an osmotic device.

Claim 31. (New) The device of Claim 6, wherein said member includes an opening that extends through said member.

Claim 32. (New) The device of Claim 31, wherein said connecting medium extends across said opening.

Claim 33. (New) The device of Claim 31, wherein said connecting medium extends through said opening.

Claim 34. (New) The device of Claim 31, wherein said connecting medium is disposed in said opening.

Claim 35. (New) The device of Claim 6, wherein said connecting medium comprises a hydrogel.

Claim 35. (New) The device of Claim 6, wherein said connecting medium comprises a form selected from the group consisting of a gel, a solid and a powder.

Claim 36. (New) The device of Claim 6, wherein said connecting medium comprises a matrix material.

Claim 37. (New) The device of Claim 6, wherein said device further includes an agent delivery device connected to said second surface of said member, said agent delivery device being selected from the group consisting of an electrotransport device, a passive device, an osmotic device, and a pressure driven device.

Claim 38. (New) The device of Claim 37, wherein said agent delivery device is capable of delivering at least one agent selected from the group consisting of an oligonucleotide drug, a polynucleotide drug, a gene, a polypeptide, and a protein.